

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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| In the Matter of the Suspension or |) | |
| |) | CONSENT ORDER OF |
| Revocation of the Educator Certificate of |) | |
| |) | SUSPENSION |
| Kendra C. Gray |) | |
| |) | |
| Certificate 218334 |) | |

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on July 12, 2006. On June 26, 2006, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Kendra C. Gray a notice of her right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate 218334 by regular and certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery. Upon receipt of that letter, Ms. Gray contacted the Department's Office of General Counsel on June 28, 2006, and agreed to waive her right to a hearing and to accept the suspension of her certificate for a six-month period that would commence retroactively on May 1, 2006, through October 31, 2006. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to order the suspension of Ms. Gray's certificate for the agreed upon period.

Kendra C.
Gray

Initial Here

Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Gray was a participant in the Program for Alternative Certification (PACE) with over two years of teaching experience. During the 2005-06 school year, she held a one-year critical needs certificate and was employed under an annual contract as a business education teacher at D.R. Hill Middle School in Spartanburg County School District Five. On May 8, 2006, Ms. Gray resigned from the District, effective April 30, 2006, after the District determined that Ms. Gray had provided inaccurate information, misused sick leave, and failed to properly obtain release from her contract of employment.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct and dishonesty. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to suspend Ms. Gray’s certificate 218334, commencing retroactively on May 1, 2006, through October 31, 2006. If Ms. Gray wishes to have her certificate reissued at the end of the suspension period, she must make a written request to the Department’s Office of Educator Certification and meet all PACE requirements for certificate reissuance.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Joe Isaac

Joe Isaac

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

July 12, 2006

I, Kendra C. Gray, S.C. Educator Certificate 218334 do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval on July 12, 2006.

/S/ Kendra C. Gray
Kendra C. Gray

7/5/06
Date